

2016 Virginia Writers Club Scholarship Guide

In keeping with the Club's vision to foster the art, craft, business and advocacy of the literary arts, the Virginia Writers Club (VWC) will award no less than one college scholarship each academic year.

The Scholarship

Scholarships are to be used for college tuition and/or books, or for writers' workshops, seminars, or university/college-level writing program expenses.

Scholarship fundraising is an ongoing VWC activity. The Board of Governors (BOG) will determine the number of annual scholarships and the amount(s) awarded based on available funds at the February BOG meeting.

The Scholarship Committee will announce the scholarship competition to the appropriate recipients no later than March 1.

The Scholarship will be paid to the college in the awardee's name.

Eligibility

VWC Scholarship(s) are open to Virginia residents who have a GPA of 2.0 or better on a 4.0 scale and meet the following additional criteria:

- High School Scholarship - Applicant must currently be a high school or a home-schooled senior who will be enrolled at an accredited college or university during the next academic year.
- College Scholarship - Applicant must be a college/university freshman who has a writing-related major (i.e., English, Journalism, etc.) Freshmen who are former VWC High School Scholarship awardees are also eligible.

The Essay

The VWC Scholarship Committee will assign an essay topic. Essays must be original, unpublished work and written solely by the applicant.

Essays will be judged by a panel of no less than three qualified VWC members appointed by the Chairperson of the VWC Scholarship Committee.

The VWC reserves the right to publish the submitted essays in its publications. Application for the scholarship constitutes awardee's consent for the VWC to publish his/her essay, names, city and state of residence, high schools and colleges attended, and the amount of the scholarship without requiring further permission, consent, payment or other consideration, unless prohibited by law.

Format

- The essay must be written in English.
- The essay must be between 850-1,000 words.
- The essay must be double-spaced and in Times New Roman 12 - point type throughout, with one-inch margins. Leave a ragged right margin.
- Identifying information about the student must appear **ONLY** on the application form and not in the essay
- The title of the essay should appear at the top of page one and on the left in the header on succeeding pages; all pages after the first should be numbered on the right in the footer.
- Pages should be fastened by one staple in the upper left corner.

Application Requirements

The High School Scholarship Application Packet must include:

- Completed High School Scholarship Application Form
- Cover letter should be no more than one page containing a brief outline of applicant's education and writing goals and a statement why the applicant should receive the award
- Cover Sheet containing the applicant's name, address, phone number(s) and/or email address
- One printed copy of the essay and an electronic copy of the essay saved as a word document (.doc not .docx). The applicant's name should not appear anywhere on the essay pages, except on the Cover Sheet.
- A copy of the applicant's current transcript (cumulative 2.0 or better GPA on a 4.0 scale)
- A letter of reference from someone other than a relative who knows the applicant well enough to speak with confidence about his or her character, potential and abilities. (i.e., a teacher, school counselor or coach).

The College Scholarship Application Packet must include:

- Completed College Scholarship Application Form.
- Cover letter containing a summary of the applicant's writing goals.
- A copy of the applicant's current transcript (cumulative 2.0 or better GPA on a 4.0 scale).
- A letter of reference that addresses the applicant's writing potential from a faculty member who knows him or her well enough to speak with confidence about the applicant's talents and abilities.

- One printed copy of a sample of the applicant’s written work created during the previous academic year and a CD containing an electronic copy of the sample work saved as a word document (.doc not .docx). The written work may be a short story, novel chapter, newspaper or magazine article, play or screenplay or a collection of three to five poems.

Submission Method

Applications can be emailed or mailed. All essays must be either typed in Times New Roman 12-point type on 8.5” x 11” paper. Handwritten submissions will be automatically disqualified. Letters of recommendation must be submitted as part of the scholarship application packet. Only completed applications will be considered.

Timeline

The deadline for applications is May 1. Mailed applications received that are postmarked after May 1 will be disqualified.

Delivery:

Fred Fanning
Chairperson
VWC Scholarship Committee
3 Chandler Court
Fredericksburg, VA 22405

or

fanningf@verizon.net

Scholarship Awards:

The winner(s) will be notified by August 1.

The VWC Public Relation’s Officer will prepare and distribute the appropriate release(s) for media use.

**2016 VIRGINIA WRITERS CLUB
HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

Personal Information Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone Number: (____) _____ Email Address: _____

Educational Information High School: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Year Graduated: _____ GPA: _____
College: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Hours Completed: _____
GPA: _____ Major/Intended Major: _____

AGREEMENT:

I confirm that:

- The essay I have submitted as part of the VWC Scholarship requirements is my original work and, as such, I retain the copyright to its use. I understand that a panel of VWC members will judge this application and that their decisions are final. I hereby give the Virginia Writers Club permission to publish my essay in VWC publications and on the VWC website. I understand my essay will not be returned to me.
- I will provide the VWC the account information for the scholarship to be paid to the college in my name when I am enrolled.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

**2016 VIRGINIA WRITERS CLUB
COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

Personal Information Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone Number: (____) _____ Email Address: _____

Educational Information High School: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Year Graduated: _____
College: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Hours Completed: _____
GPA: _____ Major / Intended Major: _____

AGREEMENT:

I confirm that:

- The writing sample I have submitted as part of the VWC Scholarship renewal requirements is my original work and, as such, I retain the copyright to its use. I understand that a panel of VWC members will judge this application and that their decisions are final. I hereby give the Virginia Writers Club permission to publish my submitted work or excerpts of my submitted work in VWC publications and on the VWC website. I understand my essay will not be returned to me.
- I agree to participate in one VWC-sponsored activity during the year of the award.
- I will provide the VWC the account information for the scholarship to be paid to the college in my name.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

NEWS RELEASE FORM

1. **Event: VWC Scholarship Award**
2. **Awardee's Name:**
3. **Address:**
4. **High School and year of graduation:**
5. **College/University planning to attend or attending:**
 - Major, if decided:
 - Address or location of college or university:
6. **Parents, Guardians, Grandparents**
 - Name:
 - Address:
 - Relationship to you:

I agree to provide a headshot photo as part of the news release.

Signature of Awardee

(authorizes release of this information to appropriate news outlets such as local newspapers and radio stations)

Signature _____ Date: _____